

Pappas Telecasting  
Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in  
airtime to Republican candidates in  
certain areas is yet another example  
of a powerful media group abusing its  
privileged access to the public  
airwaves.

Localism is not served when a  
corporate headquarters decides to  
provide one side in local elections a  
louder voice than others. During  
election season, local audiences  
should be offered genuine debate --  
not disingenuous offers to "purchase"  
an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free  
of charge and is obligated by law to  
serve the public interest. Pappas'  
actions are legally questionable and  
cast doubt on whether Pappas truly  
intends to serve the public interest.  
Their actions show why we need to  
strengthen media ownership rules, not  
weaken them. Further, they show why  
the license renewal process needs to  
involve more than just a returned  
postcard. Thank you.